

है? सभापति जी, प्रश्न यह है कि इसका प्रभावी प्रभाव क्या हो रहा है जिसके कारण यह चीजें रोकी जा सकें? सभापति जी, इस संबंध में चाहे सम्मिलित प्रयास करना हो यह एक मंत्रालय को प्रयास करना हो, उसके परिणाम क्या हो रहे हैं, यह मैं जानना चाहता हूँ?

श्री सुखदेव सिंह ढिंडसा: सभापति जी, जैसा कि माननीय मंत्री साहब ने कहा या अर्थात् बनी है जो कि एनवायरनमेंट मिनिस्ट्री के अंडर में है। उस मिनिस्ट्री ने अपने रूप में कुछ ऐसे चेंजेज किए हैं जिस से कि सख्ती की जा सके और इस को इम्पलीमेंट किया जा सके। वह मिनिस्टर साहब बैठे हैं और मैं उन से कहूँगा कि इस को ज्यादा इम्पलीमेंट करने की कोशिश करें।

*606. [The Questioner (Shri C.M. Ibrahim) was absent for answer vide page 32 infra.]

*607. [The Questioners (Shri K. Kalavenkata Rao and Dr. Y. Lakshmi Prasad) were absent for answer vide page 34 infra.]

Scientific study on the use of CNG

*608. SHRI AIMADUDDIN AHMAD KHAN (DURRU): Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government have done any scientific study on the use of CNG as an alternative to diesel for public transport vehicles;
- (b) if so, whether the study reveals the comparative health risks of alternative fuels and CNG;
- (c) what are the alternatives of diesel being used by public transport systems in the world and whether acceptability of these fuels have also been studied; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b) The scientific studies conducted so far have indicated that the emissions from Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) vehicles are less as compared to diesel driven vehicles, particularly in respect of oxides of nitrogen and particulate matter.

As such, the health risks from CNG would be lower in comparison to diesel.

(c) and (d) The fuel alternatives of diesel in use in public transport system in the world include Compressed Natural Gas (CNG), Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) and Propane. The acceptability of these fuels is primarily on the basis of their emission characteristics, availability and cost effectiveness.

SHRI AIMADUDDIN AHMAD KHAN (DURRU): I has specially asked whether the Government has done any scientific study; and if so, will the Government place it on the Table of the House? Has the Government done any cost and benefit study which includes health hazards, effect on environment, economic cost and benefit like modification of buses and fuel pump engines especially in major cities like Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata, Bangalore and Hyderabad?

SHRI T.R. BAALU: Sir, studies have been conducted. Only after conducting proper studies have we identified...

SHRI AIMADUDDIN AHMAD KHAN (DURRU): Has the Government done any scientific study?

SHRI T.R. BAALU: That is what I have said. The Ministry of Environment and Forests has studied the fuel quality. Only after an effective study have we come to a conclusion that CNG, Propane and LPG are clean fuels as compared to petrol and diesel. This is what I have said.

SHRI AIMADUDDIN AHMAD KHAN (DURRU): Sir, I would request the hon. Minister to lay it on the Table of the House.

SHRI T.R. BAALU: Sir, whatever studies have been carried out by the Ministry, will be laid on the Table of the House.

SHRI AIMADUDDIN AHMAD KHAN (DURRU): What is the availability of low sulphur diesel and CNG in various metropolitan cities?

SHRI T.R. BAALU: So far as Delhi is concerned, there are 68 CNG outlets. The Petroleum Ministry is going to set up 80 outlets. There are some CNG outlets in Mumbai also. CNG is available

throughout India. The Petroleum Ministry has been requested by us to see that as required, some more CNG outlets are put up at least in the metro cities of India. So far as Delhi is concerned, there are adequate CNG outlets available. The Supreme Court is seized of the matter. More than 2,000 CNG vehicles would be made available shortly, as per the verdict of the Supreme Court. The Government is seized of the matter.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS

Recovery of overcharged amounts for drugs

*603. SHRI VIJAY SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Revital, Surbex IP, Zevit, Sobradex, Becosule are being sold at prices, violative of DPCO-95;
- (b) whether National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) has calculated the overcharged amounts for these drugs; if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) what action is being proposed to recover the overcharged amount from these companies?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SUKHDEV SINGH DHINDSA): (a) to (c) The formulations Zevit and Becosules capsules are under price control as per provisions of the Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 1995 and no violation of ceiling price notification has been noticed. In case of the sale of Becosules syrup, no ceiling prices have been fixed.

The names "Sobradex" and "Surbex I.P." are not found in the Medical Journals like Drug Today, Indian Drugs Review (IDR), Monthly Index of Medical Specialities (MIMS) and ORG-MARG Reports. The product "Revital" is sold as a food supplement in the country.